

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendment and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

It was recently brought to the undersigned attorney's attention that during the extended prosecution of this application that HEC was dropped from the Markush group of claim 1. This was a mistake and an oversight which is herein being corrected. This should not affect the patentability of this application, since none of the prior art discloses the instant invention.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite is now in order in view of the amendments to claim 1. Claim 9 depends from claim 1 that provides adequate basis for this claim.

The rejection of claims 1-7, 11, 13, 14, 19, and 34 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Diehl et al. is traversed. Since claim 35 was indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter, it has now been incorporated into claim 1 so that claim 1 is now allowable. Hence, this rejection is now a moot issue. It should be noted, however, the critical difference between Diehl et al. and the instant application is that Diehl uses a starch derivative such as surface-modified starches bearing hydrophobic moieties which are substantially water-insoluble; this is just the opposite of the instant invention that uses a substantially water-soluble polymer. Hence, Diehl et al. clearly does not anticipate the instant invention.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and prompt notification thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



David Edwards
Attorney for Applicant (s)
Reg. No. 27,293

Hercules Incorporated
Hercules Plaza
1313 North Market Street
Wilmington, DE 19894-0001
(302) 594-6974
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

--1. (Twice Amended) A household product composition comprising:

- (a) from about 0.1% to about 99% by weight of a vehicle system which
- 5 comprises a hydrophobically modified water soluble polysaccharide polymer having a hydrophilic portion which comprises a water soluble polysaccharide polymer backbone selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethylcellulose (HEC), hydroxypropylcellulose (HPC), methylcellulose (MC), hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC), ethyl hydroxyethylcellulose (EHEC), and
- 10 methyl hydroxyethylcellulose (MHEC), agar, dextran, locust bean gum, starch, guar, and their nonionic derivatives, and mixtures thereof and a hydrophobic moiety selected from the group consisting of C₃-C₂₄ alkyl, aryl alkyl, alkyl aryl groups and mixtures thereof, wherein the hydrophobic moiety is attached to the backbone by an ether linkage and is present in an amount up to the amount
- 15 which renders said polysaccharide less than 1% by weight soluble in water and
- (b) at least one active household care ingredient selected from the group consisting of cleaning, sanitizing, polishing, pesticide, and toilet preparation products.—